

Masanori HIRANO et al., S.N. 10/565,136
Page 4

Dkt. 2271/75741

Listing of Claims

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application:

1. (currently amended) An image reproducing and forming apparatus comprising:
a recording head configured to eject liquid droplets of at least one color and capable of bidirectional recording; and
a controller configured to control an amount of liquid adhering to a recording paper so as to reduce color difference occurring in the bidirectional recording,
wherein the controller controls the amount of liquid adhesion through controlled gamma correction using a controlled gamma value adjusted so as to reduce the color difference, and
wherein the controller has a selector that selects either an ordinary gamma correction using an ordinary gamma value or the controlled gamma correction for reducing color difference using the controlled gamma value.
2. (original) The image reproducing and forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller has a determination unit that determines whether an object to be output is text, and wherein the controller does not perform a process of reducing the color difference when the object to be output is text.
3. (original) The image reproducing and forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the controller has a determination unit that determines an object to be output and the number of colors used in the bidirectional recording, and wherein the controller does not perform a process

Masanori HIRANO et al., S.N. 10/565,136
Page 5

Dkt. 2271/75741

of reducing the color difference when the object to be output is not text and when the number of colors is one.

Claims 4 and 5 (canceled).

6. (currently amended) The image reproducing and forming apparatus of claim [[5]] 1, wherein the controlled gamma value is a product of the ordinary gamma value and a factor K, wherein K is set in the range from 0.35 to 0.65.

7. (currently amended) [[The]] An image reproducing and forming apparatus ~~of claim 2 or 3~~ comprising:

a recording head configured to eject liquid droplets of at least one color and capable of bidirectional recording; and

a controller configured to control an amount of liquid adhering to a recording paper so as to reduce color difference occurring in the bidirectional recording.

wherein the controller has a determination unit that at least one of (a) determines whether an object to be output is text, wherein the controller does not perform a process of reducing the color difference when the object to be output is text, and (b) determines an object to be output and the number of colors used in the bidirectional recording, wherein the controller does not perform a process of reducing the color difference when the object to be output is not text and when the number of colors is one.

wherein the controller is configured to selectively perform either a controlled gamma correction for controlling the amount of liquid adhesion to reduce the color difference in

Masanori HIRANO et al., S.N. 10/565,136

Dkt. 2271/75741

Page 6

bidirectional recording or an ordinary gamma correction not addressed to reduction of the color difference, based on the determination result of the determination unit.

8. (original) The image reproducing and forming apparatus of claim 7, wherein the controller uses a controlled gamma value to perform the controlled gamma correction, and uses an ordinary gamma value to perform the ordinary gamma correction.

9. (original) The image reproducing and forming apparatus of claim 8, wherein the controlled gamma value is a product of the ordinary gamma value and a factor K, wherein K is set in the range from 0.35 to 0.65.

10. (currently amended) [[The]] An image reproducing and forming apparatus of claim 4 comprising:

a recording head configured to eject liquid droplets of at least one color and capable of bidirectional recording; and
a controller configured to control an amount of liquid adhering to a recording paper so as to reduce color difference occurring in the bidirectional recording,

wherein when duplexing is performed in the bidirectional recording, the controller further controls the amount of liquid adhering to the recording paper using a factor M, wherein M is less than 1.0.

11. (currently amended) A printer driver installed in a computer and configured to process image data to be supplied to an image reproducing and forming apparatus capable of

Masanori HIRANO et al., S.N. 10/565,136
Page 7

Dkt. 2271/75741

bidirectional recording using a recording head for ejecting liquid droplets of at least one color onto a recording medium, the printer driver comprising:

a control unit configured to control an amount of liquid adhering to the recording medium so as to reduce color difference occurring in the bidirectional recording,

wherein the control unit includes a gamma correction unit configured to selectively perform a controlled gamma correction using a controlled gamma value adjusted so as to reduce the color difference or an ordinary gamma correction using an ordinary gamma value, and

wherein the controlled gamma value is a product of the ordinary gamma value and a factor K, wherein K is set in the range from 0.35 to 0.65.

12. (original) The printer driver of claim 11, further comprising:

a determination unit configured to determine whether an object to be output is text, wherein the control unit does not perform a process of reducing the color difference when the object to be output is text.

13. (original) The printer driver of claim 11, further comprising:

a determination unit configured to determine an object type and the number of colors used in image data, and wherein the control unit does not perform a process of reducing the color difference when the object type is not text and when the number of colors is one.

Claims 14 and 15 (canceled).

16. (currently amended) The printer driver of claim [[15]] 11, wherein when the image

Masanori HIRANO et al., S.N. 10/565,136
Page 8

Dkt. 2271/75741

data designates duplexing, the control unit uses a second controlled gamma value obtained by multiplying the product by a factor M, wherein M is less than 1.0.

17. (currently amended) [[The]] A printer driver of claim 12 or 13 installed in a computer and configured to process image data to be supplied to an image reproducing and forming apparatus capable of bidirectional recording using a recording head for ejecting liquid droplets of at least one color onto a recording medium, the printer driver comprising:

a control unit configured to control an amount of liquid adhering to the recording medium so as to reduce color difference occurring in the bidirectional recording; and

a determination unit configured to at least one of (a) determine whether an object to be output is text, wherein the control unit does not perform a process of reducing the color difference when the object to be output is text, and (b) determine an object type and the number of colors used in image data, wherein the control unit does not perform a process of reducing the color difference when the object type is not text and when the number of colors is one,

wherein the control unit includes a gamma correction unit configured to selectively perform either a controlled gamma correction for controlling the amount of liquid adhesion or an ordinary gamma correction not for controlling the amount of liquid adhesion, based on either the determination result of the determination unit or an externally supplied instruction.

18. (original) The printer driver of claim 17, wherein the control unit uses a controlled gamma value to perform the controlled gamma correction, and uses an ordinary gamma value to perform the ordinary gamma correction.

Masanori HIRANO et al., S.N. 10/565,136
Page 9

Dkt. 2271/75741

19. (original) The printer driver of claim 18, wherein the controlled gamma value is a product of the ordinary gamma value and a factor K, wherein K is set in the range from 0.35 to 0.65.

20. (original) The printer driver of claim 19, wherein when the image data designates duplexing, the control unit uses a second controlled gamma value obtained by multiplying the product by a factor M, wherein M is less than 1.0.

Claims 21-39 (canceled).